

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of providing a steroid-sparing benefit to a subject that is in need of, or that is presently receiving, a corticosteroid, the method comprising administering to the subject a Cox-2 inhibitor in
5 combination with a corticosteroid.

2. The method according to claim 1, wherein the Cox-2 inhibitor comprises a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug.

3. The method according to claim 1, wherein the Cox-2 inhibitor comprises a Cox-2 selective inhibitor.

10 4. The method according to claim 3, wherein the Cox-2 selective inhibitor comprises at least one compound that is selected from the group consisting of celecoxib, parecoxib, deracoxib, valdecoxib, etoricoxib, meloxicam, rofecoxib, lumiracoxib, prodrugs of any of them, and mixtures thereof.

15 5. The method according to claim 3, wherein the Cox-2 selective inhibitor comprises celecoxib.

6. The method according to claim 3, wherein the Cox-2 selective inhibitor comprises a chromene Cox-2 selective inhibitor.

20 7. The method according to claim 6, wherein the chromene Cox-2 selective inhibitor comprises at least one compound selected from the group consisting of

(S)-6-chloro-7-(1,1-dimethylethyl)-2-(trifluoromethyl)-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid,

(2S)-6,8-dimethyl-2-(trifluoromethyl)-2H-chromene-3-carboxylic acid,

25 (2S)-6-chloro-8-methyl-2-(trifluoromethyl)-2H-chromene-3-carboxylic acid,

(2S)-8-ethyl-6-(trifluoromethoxy)-2-(trifluoromethyl)-2H-chromene-3-carboxylic acid,

(S)-6,8-dichloro-2-(trifluoromethyl)-2H-1-benzopyran-3-carboxylic acid,

30 (2S)-6-chloro-5,7-dimethyl-2-(trifluoromethyl)-2H-chromene-3-carboxylic acid, and mixtures thereof.

8. The method according to claim 1, wherein the corticosteroid comprises at least one compound selected from the group consisting of

hydrocortisone, mometasone, fluticasone, fluocinolone acetonide,
fluocinolone, flurandrenolone acetonide, ciclesonide, budesonide,
beclomethasone, deflazacort, flunisolide, beclomethasone dipropionate,
betamethasone, betamethasone valerate, methylprednisolone,
5 dexamethasone, prednisolone, cortisol, triamcinolone, clobetasol,
clobetasol propionate, clobetasol butyrate, cortisone, corticosterone,
clocortolone, dihydroxycortisone, alclometasone, amcinonide,
difluocortolone valerate, flucortolone, fluprednidene, fluandrenolone,
fluorometholone, halcinonide, halobetasol, desonide, diflorasone,
10 flurandrenolide, fluocinonide, prednicarbate, desoximetasone,
fluprednisolone, prednisone, azelastine, dexamethasone 21-phosphate,
fludrocortisone, flumethasone, fluocinonide, halopredone, hydrocortisone
17-valerate, hydrocortisone 17-butyrate, hydrocortisone 21-acetate,
prednisolone, prednisolone 21-phosphate, clobetasol propionate,
15 triamcinolone acetonide, and mixtures thereof.

9. The method according to claim 1, wherein the administering
of the Cox-2 inhibitor and the administering of the corticosteroid are
carried out substantially simultaneously.

10. A method of preventing or treating a corticosteroid-
20 responsive disease or disorder in a subject comprising administering to the
subject a Cox-2 inhibitor in combination with a corticosteroid.

11. The method according to claim 10, wherein the
corticosteroid-responsive disease or disorder is selected from the group
consisting of pulmonary inflammatory disorders, inflammation, pulmonary
25 hypertension, asthma, retinopathy, diabetic angiopathy, edema formation,
arthritis, rheumatoid arthritis, multiple sclerosis, Crohn's disease, chronic
bronchitis, eosinophilic granuloma, psoriasis and other benign or
malignant proliferative skin diseases, endotoxic shock, septic shock,
ulcerative colitis, reperfusion injury of the myocardium and brain,
30 osteoarthritis, osteoporosis, chronic glomerulonephritis, atopic dermatitis,
contact dermatitis, psoriasis vulgaris, lichen planus, keloids, urticaria
pigmentosa, urticaria, adult respiratory distress syndrome, infant

respiratory distress syndrome, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, diabetes insipidus, rhinitis, allergic conjunctivitis, vernal conjunctivitis, arterial restenosis, atherosclerosis, neurogenic inflammation, pain, cough, ankylosing spondylitis, lupus, autoimmune diseases, transplant rejection
5 and graft versus host disease, hypersecretion of gastric acid, bacterial, fungal or viral induced sepsis or septic shock, inflammation and cytokine-mediated chronic tissue degeneration, cancer, cachexia, conjunctivitis, dermatitis, muscle wasting, depression, inflammatory bowel disease, allergic responses to insect and arthropod bites, memory impairment,
10 monopolar depression, acute and chronic neurodegenerative disorders with inflammatory components, Parkinson disease, Alzheimer's disease, spinal cord trauma, head injury, joint injury, multiple sclerosis, tumor growth and cancerous invasion of normal tissues.

12. A method for the treatment or prevention of pain,
15 inflammation or an inflammation-related disorder in a subject comprising administering to the subject a Cox-2 inhibitor and a corticosteroid.

13. A therapeutic composition comprising a Cox-2 inhibitor and a corticosteroid.

14. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a Cox-2 inhibitor,
20 a corticosteroid, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

15. A kit comprising one dosage form comprising a Cox-2 inhibitor and a second dosage form comprising a corticosteroid.